

# Talking Points for Secure Commonwealth Panel Meeting Wednesday December 10, 2008

## Goal

By June 2009 to recommend to the Secure Commonwealth Panel a legislation proposal or other course of action that will incorporate all hazards emergency preparedness education for K-5 graders in Virginia.

## 2008 Meetings

- September 10
- November 4
- December 2

## NEXT MEETING: Wednesday February 18, 2009

**Note:** Minutes of meetings are posted on the Outreach Secure Commonwealth Panel webpage: [http://www.ocp.virginia.gov/Governance/SCP\\_outreachsubpanel.cfm](http://www.ocp.virginia.gov/Governance/SCP_outreachsubpanel.cfm)

## Highlights

- Bringing a diverse group of stakeholders to the table (Virginia Department of Emergency Management, Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Fire Programs, OCP, Department of Criminal Justice Services, local fire department, NOAA, elementary school principal).
- Agree that a lot of information already exist but needs to be coordinated among the different agencies.
- Trying to find ways to merge preparedness into existing SOLS.
- Desire to make preparedness teaching tools user friendly for teachers.
- Research found that the following disasters pose a higher risk to students in VA and should be consider in developing a preparedness curriculum for K-5 (floods, tornados, winter storms, hurricanes, fires, lightning, active shooter/bomb threat).
- The working group has researched preparedness education/outreach efforts of other states, organizations, and agencies to reach the K-5 target audience.
- Tie effort to the Ready Virginia Campaign.

**Next Steps/Meeting:**

- Partnering with DCJS to develop and add specific preparedness questions to there annual 2009 School Safety Survey (for all elementary school principals to complete)
- Invite teachers and principals into discussion (next meeting) to hear more perspectives on the best way to accomplish goal.